

School Board Meeting (Tuesday, March 8, 2022)**Members present**

Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran
(Absent - Robert Crowley)

1. OPENING

Information, Procedural: A. Call to order 6:05 PM by Board President, Megan Ryan.
Robert Crowley absent

Action, Procedural: B. Executive Session discuss the employment history of a particular central office administrator and discuss CSEA and NMFA negotiations.
(not specified)

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Ed Corona.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action, Procedural: C. Reconvene to Public at 7:00 PM

Information, Procedural: D. Call to order 7:05 PM

Board President, Megan Ryan, Esq., thanked everyone for coming to the board meeting and said she was happy to see all the children smiling in the audience. She stated that it was wonderful to have a good turnout and to see the community here and the seats filled. Ms. Ryan addressed how the last board meeting ended and expressed her disappointment. She reminded that all the board members are volunteers who give up their time but enjoy giving back to the community. She noted that this is a very transparent board, that residents are encouraged to ask questions, the board provides answers, and there are two public comment sessions. Ms. Ryan said the board has listened to all opinions on masking, but the board was addressed inappropriately at the end of the last meeting, so the meeting was adjourned.

Thomas McDaid, Assistant Superintendent for Business, discussed BOCES expenses that came up at last night's budget meeting. He said provided information as of our BOCES expenses and reimbursement. In addition, he said Nassau County Legislator Thomas McKeivitt has provided a \$200,000 grant toward a playground for the district, and the district is hopeful for another grant from State Senator John Brooks.

Action, Information, Procedural: E. Pledge of allegiance

Ms. Ryan stated we are going to have two public comments, the first for agenda items only and the other towards the end of the agenda.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Information, Procedural: A. Superintendent's comments

Dr. Seniuk welcomed all the teachers. Commented on how pleased to see all the happy faces of the children - it's a celebration of what is to come.

- Budget meeting on Monday evening
- Adult yoga and writing workshop on April 2nd at OMR
- Summer Programs, Scope Camp Invention, Foreign language, music and extended school year as well as the afternoon clubs
- UPK, process has begun with RFP and registration. UPK program will be continue on a yearly basis
- Holiday concerts – each school had a chance to perform and did .
- Playground update – using grant received from McKeivitt to update equipment and hoping from Senator Brooks
- Theatre Arts Performances will be held at Brookside, March 25th and 26th

3. ROUTINE APPROVALS

Action, Minutes, Procedural: A. Approval of Minutes - February 8, 2022

Approval of minutes - February 8, 2022

Motion by Ed Corona, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action, Information, Procedural: B. Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers
(not specified)

Motion by Ed Corona, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action, Information, Procedural: C. Approval of Treasurer's Report
(not specified)

Motion by Ed Corona, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (agenda items only)

Action, Procedural: A. Guidelines for Public Comments - Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall fill out a comment card. After you are called, come forward to the microphone and state your full name. All comments or questions shall be directed to the Board President or Superintendent of Schools. The Board or Administration will do their best to immediately respond to any questions. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, each person will limit his/her remarks to no more than 3 minutes, not to exceed a 30 minute session. Public discussion with respect to confidential matters is prohibited.

Discussion, Information, Procedural: B. Comments
none

5. BUSINESS

Action, Procedural: A. The Board of Education approves the agreement with the North Merrick Public Library, located at 1691 Meadowbrook Road, North Merrick, New York 11566, as the location for the District's May 17, 2022 Annual Budget Vote and Election. The Board of Education approves the agreement with the North Merrick Public Library, located at 1691 Meadowbrook Road, North Merrick, New York 11566, as the location for the District's May 17, 2022 Annual Budget Vote and Election. A- E

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action, Procedural: B. The Board of Education approves the appointment of clerks for the following votes: North Merrick Library Vote on April 13, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Library evening voter's registration on April 6th from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM; North Merrick Budget/Trustee Vote May 17, 2022 from 6:30 AM to 9:00 PM; Evening voter's registration on May 11th from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM; BOLD Training and Board of Elections training for the 2022-2023 school year. Chief Election Inspector - Joanne Long Election Inspector - Michelle Hagan; Spanish translator TBD. Clerks: Judy Horvath, Patricia Grecco; Cathy Onolfo, Annette Starala; Samantha Foley (on an as needed basis). The clerks will be paid \$15.00 per hour. Election Inspector, Michele Hagan, will be paid at her hourly wage of \$15.00. The District will be reimbursed by the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District for half of the expenses related to the May 17, 2022 vote.

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Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action: C. The Board of Education authorizes the district to enter into a 12-month agreement for dental insurance with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, effective July 1, 2022.
The Board of Education authorizes the district to enter into a 12-month agreement for dental insurance with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, effective July 1, 2022.

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action: D. The Board of Education approves entering into a consulting agreement with HDF Davidson for the 2022 Theatre Arts production to provide set building, lighting and sound. Cost not to exceed \$3,200.00
The Board of Education approves entering into a consulting agreement with HDF Davidson for the 2022 Theatre Arts production to provide set building, lighting and sound. Cost not to exceed \$3,200.00

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action: E. The Board of Education approves entering into a consulting agreement with Stefanie Maura of Lumi4Life, LLC for a wellness-inspired yoga workshop. Cost not to exceed \$700.00
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Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Action, Procedural: F. The Board of Education may or may not nominate the following individuals for the Nassau BOCES Board: There are three seats on the Nassau BOCES Board that will expire on June 30, 2022. The seats are held by Ronald Ellerbe, Fran N. Langsner and Robert "B.A." Schoen. Each seat carries a term of three years.
Conversation ensued about process of nominating BOCES board member. Mr. Corona stated we can nominate a member of the district or someone who lives in another district. BOCES is looking for new people to be on their board.

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Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

Abstain: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

6. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.
The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

7. SPECIAL EDUCATION

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the thirteen (13) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.
The Board of Education approves the thirteen (13) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Steve Enella, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

8. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Procedural: A. High School

Trustee Ed Corona gave an update on the high school district, such as the band broadcast, culinary arts, and the On Tour performances that were recorded and will be posted on the high school website.

Procedural: B. School Community Relations/PTA Council

Mrs. Keene reported on the PTA and SEPTA events. Discussions also included the upcoming graduations, end-of-year activities and summer school programs.

Procedural: C. Buildings & Grounds

Sam Carder, Director of School Facilities, reported that a lot of work was completed over the winter break, including adding wood fiber to the OMR playground, pruning a giant oak tree, and moving a lot of equipment back and forth for Theatre Arts. The head custodians were also trained on the fuel oil tanks. Mr. Carder said the district is still in the process of reviewing playground options.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Communication

Mrs. Long stated there were 10 communications received.

1 - Amicus brief

1 - classroom snack

2 - masking

2 - Brooklyn school stopped masking

3 - Adjourning 2/8 board meeting

1 - more time for budget meeting

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Unfinished business

11. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. New business

Ed Corona spoke about the Nassau Suffolk Coalition and encouraged North Merrick residents to apply to be a BOCES board member. He said this organization provides school districts with important information to bring back to the community, such as alternative dwelling units (ADUs) that can be placed in backyards.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Comments

Resident Vincent Lentini thanked all the board members. He commented on how hard the board, administrators, and teachers work to help students feel normal again, and he thanked Dr. Cynthia Seniuk, Superintendent of Schools, for her leadership.

Resident Mario Fanelli asked if the district could start the childcare program earlier to accommodate working parents. Dr. Seniuk stated she will meet with the director of the program, June Smith, to discuss options.

Resident Robert Rollins questioned what Covid restrictions are still in place in the schools. Dr. Seniuk explained that the district continues to follow CDC rules, and if someone in the class tests positive, the district will alert the families of the students and the staff.

Resident Ashish Kapadia spoke about the importance of a diverse faculty, especially as the district becomes more diverse. He said it is important to emphasize and appreciate cultures, heritage, and languages and brings a greater understanding to the children.

13. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (BOE only)

Information, Procedural: A. Appropriation Status Report; Revenue Status Report; Trial Balance; Cash Flow; Projections

Information, Procedural: B. Enrollment; Health Office Report; Student/Adult Accidents

Information: C. Building & Grounds Reports

Information: D. Absence of Five Consecutive Days

Information: E. Triennial Assessment of Wellness Policy

14. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjournment 7:55

Adjournment

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran